

EXCURSION TO CHELTENHAM.

A FAIR number of members of the Club met at the Cheltenham station on Saturday afternoon, 18th August. The excursion having been arranged in the interests of botanists and collectors of pond life, the former, under the leadership of Mr. C. French, jun., struck across the heath ground to the Ti-tree at Black Rock, and from thence along the coast to Sandringham. The curious little plant *Phylloglossum Drummondii* was found in swampy places rather abundantly, and among other plants collected may be noted *Epacris impressa* (red and white varieties), *Caladenia deformis*, *Pterostylis nutans*, *P. concinna*, *P. pedunculata*, *P. nana*, *Cyrtostylis reniformis* (very fine specimens, some having as many as eight to twelve flowers on one stem), *Acianthus exsertus*, *Eriochilus fimbriatus* (just finished flowering). Also a specimen of *Loranthus celastroides* was found growing on the *Leptospermum levigatum*; this plant is rather rare in this locality.

On reaching the spring whence the Cheltenham water supply is partially obtained the botanists went ahead, leaving the "pond life" workers, under the leadership of Mr. J. Shephard, to pursue their investigations more leisurely. After collecting sundry water plants and bottling water, the party proceeded over the open country for about a mile, to the spot visited last year, pausing on the way to examine several swampy places. On reaching the spring a more careful examination was made, and all available vessels filled for subsequent investigation. Volvox was noted, but was not plentiful. Among the forms seen on searching over the material was the Rotifer found last year and mentioned as being intermediate between *Anurea cochlearis* and *A. stipitata*; also several Floscules. Some very interesting collared Protozoa were found. One form agreed exactly with Kent's description of *Salpingoeca marina*, though, of course, it was a freshwater species. Another might with confidence, from its shape and size, have been identical with *S. amphoridium*, but no lorica was detected, though probably with more prolonged examination this might have been demonstrated. The blue Stentor, *S. cæruleus*, was found in numbers. Mr. W. Stickland reports a representative of the Vorticellidæ with vivid green corpuscles embedded in its substance. A cursory examination of Kent did not produce any reference to the occurrence of chlorophyll in this family, though so common among the Protozoa.—C. FRENCH, jun.; J. SHEPHARD.

EXCURSION TO FRANKSTON.

THIS excursion took place on Saturday, the 29th of September, when the attendance was very small, although the day was a delightful one, and the country, for wild flowers at least, was